



*Office of the*

*Delaware State Fire Marshal*

*66th Annual Report*

*Fiscal Year 2019*

*Dedicated In Memory Of:*

*Daniel R. Kiley & Karen L. Virdin*

*Our Mission:*

*To provide the citizens of this State and all who visit a fire safe environment be it in the home, the workplace, or wherever they pursue their varied lifestyles or interests.*





STATE OF DELAWARE  
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

GROVER P. INGLE  
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

DOVER OFFICE  
HEADQUARTERS

*August 27, 2019*

*The Honorable John C. Carney, Governor  
State of Delaware  
Office of the Governor  
Tatnall Building  
Dover, DE 19901*

*Dear Governor Carney,*

*I am pleased to forward to you the Sixty-Sixth Annual Report for the Office of the State Fire Marshal.*

*The Sixty-Sixth Annual Report reflects the accomplishments of the agency by our dedicated staff in providing a fire safe environment for the residents and visitors of Delaware during FY 2019. In order to successfully complete these activities the Office of the State Fire Marshal delivered timely and quality service to the public by conducting thorough and efficient fire investigations, performing occupancy inspections, various code enforcement activities, plan reviews, fire protection system inspections, juvenile intervention programs, and participating in public displays.*

*The Office of the State Fire Marshal will continue to work cooperatively with our partners in law enforcement, our first responders, the Delaware Volunteer Firefighter's Association, Delaware State Fire School and Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission to deliver timely and quality service to the public in protecting them from the dangers of fire.*

*We appreciate the support you provide to our agency as Governor as well as the support of the General Assembly in providing the funding and the resources needed to accomplish our mission.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Grover P. Ingle, CFPS, CFI-II  
State Fire Marshal*

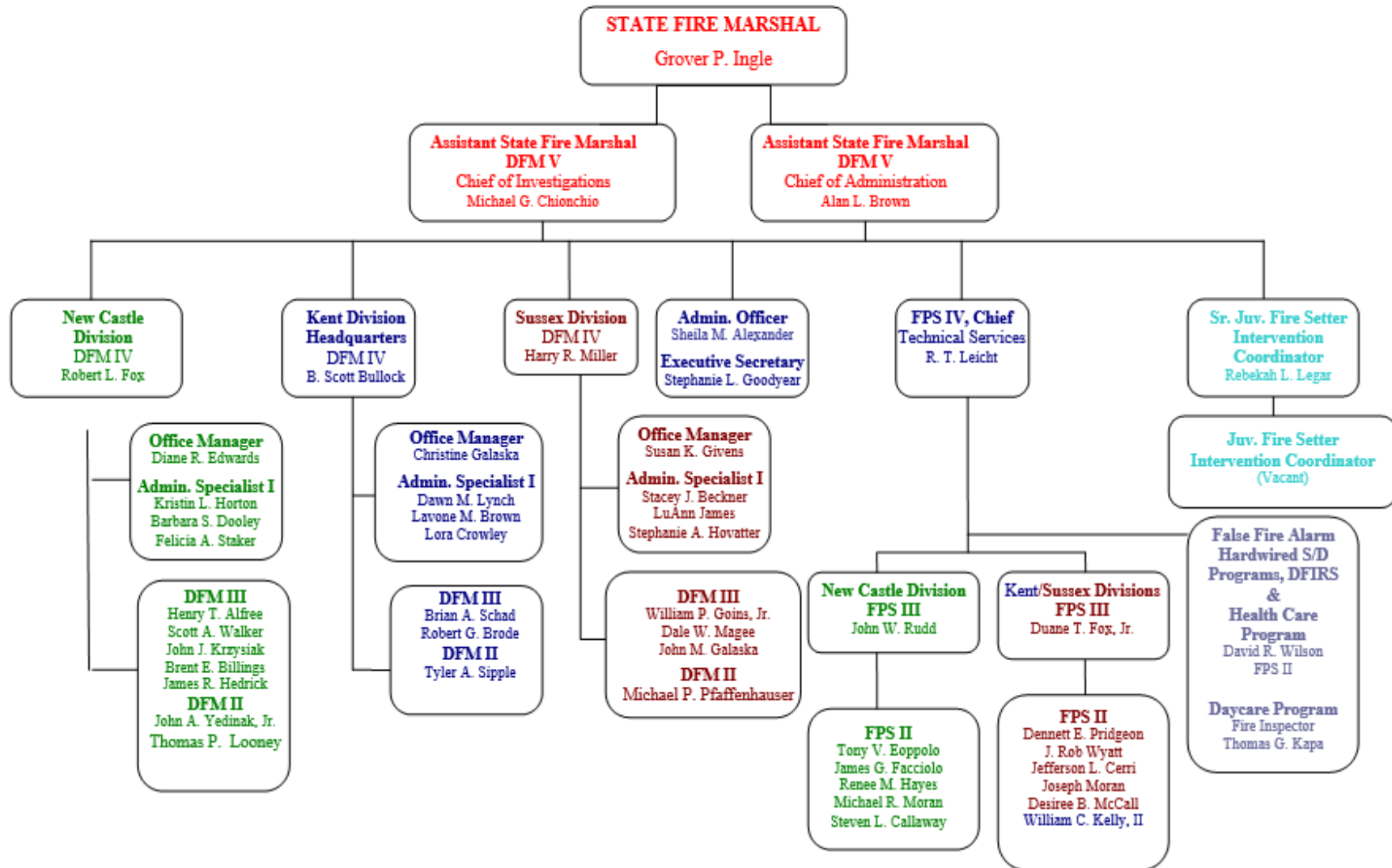




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# OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



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## *Office of the State Fire Marshal*

In 1953, at the urging of the Volunteer Fire Service, the State Legislature created the Office of the State Fire Marshal and directed that regulations, reflecting nationally recognized standards, be promulgated to enhance life safety and property conservation for the citizens of Delaware.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal functions as an independent state agency under the State Fire Prevention Commission, which promulgates the State Fire Prevention Regulations, as enforced by the Office of the State Fire Marshal. As the law enforcement agency charged by State Statute with the suppression and investigation of arson, the Office of the State Fire Marshal provides the lead role in fire and arson investigations, statewide. The agency is charged with assisting the Chief of any fire department on request, inspections and code enforcement in health care facilities, educational occupancies, places of assembly, public accommodations, flammable and combustible liquids, flammable gases, explosives and fireworks.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is funded by revenues from the General Fund Appropriations of the State and by revenues generated by the agency from plan reviews of new construction and licensing fees associated with fire protection systems.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is responsible for the comprehensive compliance with the State Statute for the installation of smoke detection devices in all residential occupancies, which greatly reduce the likelihood of injuries and deaths from fire.

The State Fire Marshal is appointed by the State Fire Prevention Commission and serves a four-year term. Under the direction of the State Fire Marshal, the daily operations of the agency are carried out by a team of dedicated staff members operating out of the headquarters division in Dover, with regional offices in New Castle and Georgetown.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is to provide a fire safe environment for the citizens of Delaware and all who visit and carries out its mandate for Public Service, through the work of three divisions; Administration, Field Operations & Technical Services.

### *Administration Division*

The Administration of the Office of the State Fire Marshal is carried out at the headquarters division located in Dover and has the responsibility to ensure the accountability, accuracy and competency of all facets of the agency through the following:

- Program Planning & Evaluation
- Administrative Policies & Procedures
- Maintain Central Records
- Fiscal Management & Budget Preparation
- Personnel Management
- Physical Plant Requirements
- Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System
- Staff Training & Education
- On-going Review of State Fire Prevention Regulations
- Data Management
- Fire Loss/Fire Death Statistics
- Interaction with a variety of State Agencies, General Assembly, Federal, County & Local Government

## *Field Operations Division*

### **Fire Investigations by Deputy Fire Marshals:**

- Conduct fire investigations to determine causal factors and the origin of such incidents
- Identify incendiary fires & other fires of criminal nature
- Investigate arson & other fires of criminal nature
- Pursue & apprehend those responsible for other fires of criminal nature & arson
- Investigate fatal fire incidents
- Assist the Department of Justice by providing expert testimony on arson fires and other fires of criminal or accidental nature
- Identify accidental fire causes to establish proactive preventative measures

### **Public Service, Life Safety, and Code Enforcement by Deputy Fire Marshals:**

- Ensure compliance with the State Statute mandating the installation of smoke detectors in all residential occupancies
- Investigate complaints relative to violations of the State Fire Prevention Regulations
- Conduct on-site Life Safety, Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement Inspections in the following occupancies:

*\*Educational Occupancies \* Places of Assembly \* Public Accommodations \* Mercantile \* Business \* Flammable & Combustible Liquids \* Flammable Gases \* Fireworks \* Explosives \* Government Buildings \**

## *Technical Services Division*

### **Fire Protection Specialists:**

- Review all plans & specifications for construction of new buildings, additions, alterations or modifications to existing buildings to ensure compliance with the State Fire Prevention Regulations
- Provide consultation to prospective developers & builders regarding their plans for projects in the concept phase
- Ensure required fire alarm and fire suppression systems are installed properly
- Coordinate all requests for alternative code requirements and all appeals to the State Fire Prevention Regulations
- Oversee the Licensing & Certification of Fire Alarm Signaling & Fire Suppression System contractors
- Investigate complaints relative to deficiencies in the installation of fire protection systems
- Provide technical support to other state & local jurisdictions

## *Special Programs*

*Juvenile Intervention \* K9 Accelerant Detection \* Health Care Facility & Day Care Facility Certification \* Major Incident Response Team \* Assistance to Fire Chiefs \* Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System \* Quality Assurance \* Hard Wired Smoke Detector \* False Fire Alarm \* Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette \**

## *Promotions*

### **Thomas P. Looney**

#### *Deputy Fire Marshal II*

Thomas P. Looney began his employment with our office on November 26, 2017 as a Deputy State Fire Marshal I. On November 26, 2018, Tom was promoted to Deputy Fire Marshal II, assigned to the Investigative Division in New Castle County.

### **Desiree B. McCall**

#### *Fire Protection Specialist II*

Desiree B. McCall began her employment with our office on January 8, 2018 as a Fire Protection Specialist I. On January 8, 2019, Desiree was promoted to a Fire Protection Specialist II, assigned to the Sussex County Division.

### **Sheila M. Alexander**

#### *Administrative Officer*

Sheila M. Alexander began her employment with our office on May 1, 2006 as an Administrative Specialist I. On February 18, 2019, Sheila was promoted to Administrative Officer, assigned to the Kent County Division.

### **Christine R. Galaska**

#### *Office Manager*

Christine R. Galaska began her employment with our office on July 9, 2018 as an Administrative Specialist I. On April 1, 2019, Christine was promoted to Office Manager, assigned to the Kent County Division.

## *New Employees*

### **Christine R. Galaska**

#### *Administrative Specialist I*

Christine R. Galaska began her employment with our office on July 9, 2018 as an Administrative Specialist I, assigned to the Kent County Division.

### **Lavone M. Brown**

#### *Administrative Specialist I*

Lavone M. Brown began her employment with our office on October 12, 2018 as an Administrative Specialist I, assigned to the Kent County Division.

### **Lora R. Crowley**

#### *Administrative Specialist I*

Lavone M. Brown began her employment with our office on May 28, 2019 as an Administrative Specialist I, assigned to the Kent County Division.

***FY-19 Financial Report (July 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2019)***

**General Funds**

<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>Available Funds</u>	<u>Encumbrances</u>	<u>Current Year Expenditures</u>
Personnel (Salaries)	\$2,186,975.41	-0-	\$2,186,975.41
Contractual	\$294,117.65	\$17,775.75	\$276,341.90
Energy	\$42,166.59	\$4,394.89	\$37,771.70
Supplies	\$23,393.02	\$14,649.46	8,743.56
General Fund Totals	\$2,546,652.67	\$36,820.10	\$2,509,832.57

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**Appropriated Special Funds (Revenue Holding Accounts)**

Revenue Received

FY19

<u>Appropriations</u>	
Amusement-8601 (70002)	\$1,000
Assembly Licensing-8607 (70003)	\$30,500
Inspections-8605 (70004)	\$259,365.00
Day Care-8614 (70007)	\$55,043.20
Explosives-8602 (70010)	\$250.00
Fireworks-8603 (70014)	\$2,800.00
In-House License-8616 (70015)	\$8,575.00
Licensing-8610 (70017)	\$13,050.00
Occup/Permits/License-8606 (70019)	\$2,425.00
Systems License-8609 (70026)	\$19,700.00
Misc. Revenue (70028)	\$52,362.44
Plan Review-8604 (70108)	\$3,200,244.15
<b>ASF Sub Total</b>	<b>\$3,645,314.79 (+)</b>
<b>FY 18 Holding Accounts Carry Over</b>	<b>\$5,935,176.28 (+)</b>
<b>ASF Grand Total</b>	<b>\$9,580,491.07 (+)</b>

<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>Available Funds</u>	<u>Encumbrances</u>	<u>Current Yr Expenditures</u>	
Personnel (Salaries)	\$1,736,305.89	\$0	\$1,736,305.89	
Travel	\$3,104.97	\$1,043.00	\$2,061.97	
Contractual	\$121,301.02	\$11,978.37	\$109,322.65	
Supplies	\$15,674.38	\$0	\$15,674.38	
Capital	\$24,671.69	\$200.00	\$24,471.69	
Revenue Refund	\$0	\$0	\$0	
ASF Spending Totals	\$1,901,057.95	\$13,221.37	\$1,887,836.58	<b>\$1,901,057.95(-)</b>

**FY19 Holding Account Carry Over**  
**\$7,679,433.12(+)**

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### Restricted Non-Appropriated Special Funds

<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Available Funds</u>	<u>Revenue Rec'd</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Remaining Funds</u>
Cigarette Certification (21002)	\$214,250	\$35,000-	\$34,994.70	\$214,255.30
Detector Fund (20345)	\$8,280.76	-0-	\$6,789.00	\$1,491.76
Hearing Impaired Detectors (20511)	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Juvenile Intervention Program (20566)	\$-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>NSF Totals</b>	<b>\$257,530.76</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$41,783.70</b>	<b>\$215,747.06(+)</b>

Total Cash on Hand June 30, 2019

\$7,895,180.18

## *Fiscal Year 2019 Agency Highlights*

*January 1, 2019*

Title 16, Delaware Code, Chapter 66C, Section 6602C requires the owner of any new and existing lodging establishment to install carbon monoxide detection devices if a dwelling unit or sleeping unit has either of the following: a) a fossil-fuel burning heater or appliance, a fireplace, or other feature, fixture, or element that emits carbon monoxide as a byproduct of combustion, b) an attached garage.

For each lodging establishment newly erected, built, or constructed after January 1, 2019 the required carbon monoxide detection devices must be installed at the time of construction. For each lodging establishment in the process of being erected, built, or constructed as of January 1, 2019 the required carbon monoxide detection devices must be installed by December 31, 2019 or the completion of construction. For each existing lodging establishment erected, built, or constructed before January 1, 2019 the required carbon monoxide detection devices must be installed by December 31, 2020.



*May 16, 2019*

Division of Forensic Science Director John Evans and State Fire Marshal Grover P. Ingle launched a newly purchased Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry in the Fire Debris Testing Laboratory. The specialized piece of equipment was purchased by the Office of the State Fire Marshal and presented to the Division of Forensic Science to combat Arson by analyzing fire debris for the presence of an ignitable liquid.



*May 17, 2019*

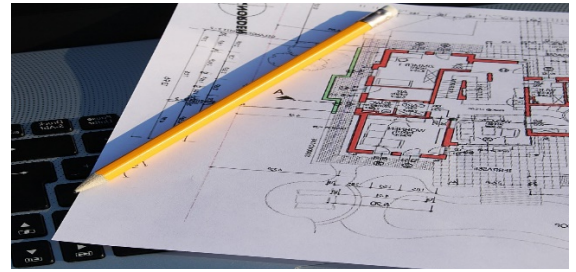
David C. Weiss, United States Attorney for the District of Delaware, presented awards to 34 officials from federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in Delaware to honor their outstanding investigative work in cases prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office. U.S. Attorney Weiss stated, "The honorees worked on a broad range of cases, from complex bank fraud, cyberstalking and theft of trade secret cases to child exploitation, firearms, and illegal drug distribution. Each of the officers demonstrated the hard work and investigative creativity required for a successful federal prosecution. As important, federal, state and local law enforcement worked together to accomplish a common objective. I thank those honored for their talent and dedication and their respective police departments and agencies with whom we partner to keep Delaware's communities safe. Among the honorees was our very own, ***Deputy Fire Marshal III, John Krzysiak.***





# Technical Services

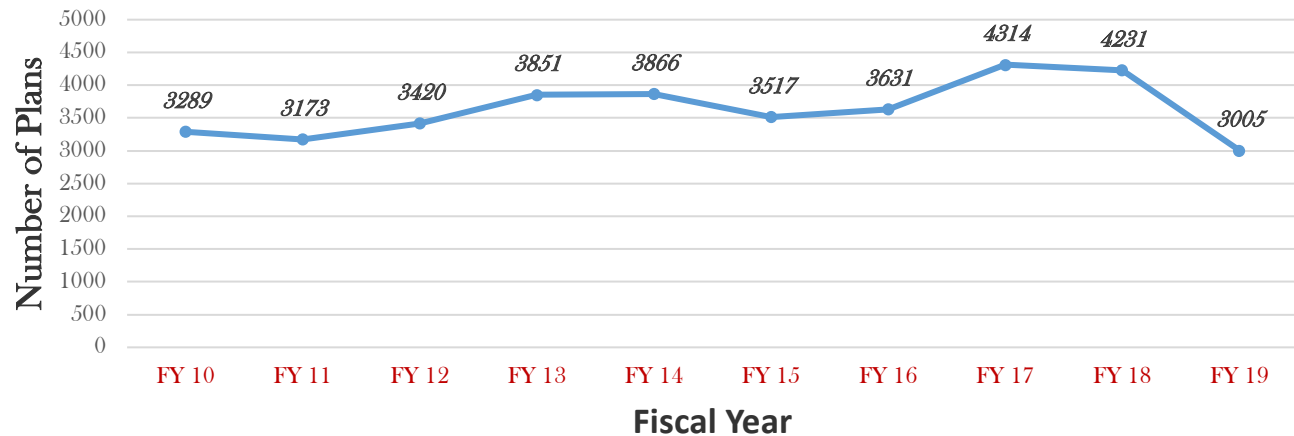
## Plan Review



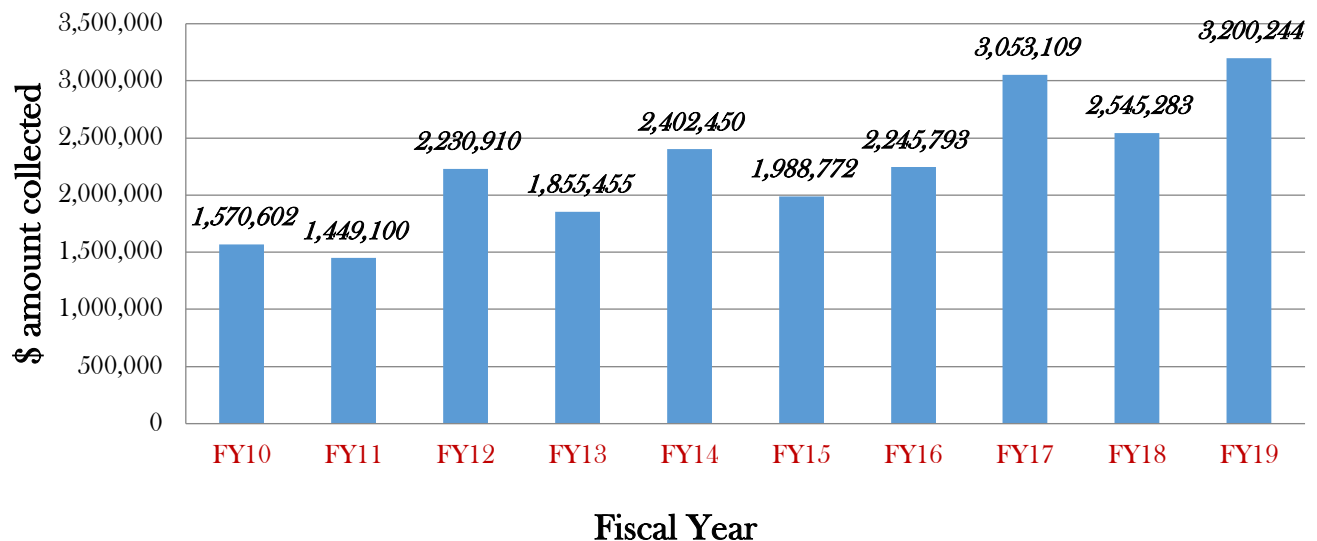
The Office of the State Fire Marshal confirms compliance with the Delaware State Fire Prevention Regulations on new proposed projects through Plan Review by their Technical Services' staff. After the plans have been approved, inspections are performed to verify conformance to the approved plans. Plan Reviews are performed on:

- *Sites*
- *New construction, including additions, renovations, tenant fit-outs and occupancy changes*
- *Fire protection systems*
- *Bulk storage tanks of flammable and combustible liquids*

### *Statewide Plan Review Projects FY 10 - FY 19*



### *Statewide PRUF Revenue Collected FY09 - FY19*





## *Additional Tasks*

Due to their technical knowledge and expertise, our supervisory staff in Technical Services provides valuable advisory assistance to a number of other organizations.

<b>State's Water Supply Coordinating Council</b>	Represent the Agency by attending and participating at regularly scheduled Council meetings.
<b>DNREC's Tank Management Section</b>	Represent the Agency on their Advisory Committee; attends and participates at their meetings scheduled as needed.
<b>Office of Child Care Licensing (DSCYF)</b>	Provides technical consultation and advice as needed and assisted with rewrite of the fire safety section of their Regulation revisions.
<b>National Association of Water Companies</b>	Attend and participate at the local chapter's panel discussion addressing "Workforce Retention and Management".
<b>City of Wilmington Fire Marshal's Office</b>	Assist with some high level plan reviews; continued availability in an advisory role as needed.
<b>Office of Healthcare Licensing and Certification (DHSS)</b>	Provides technical consultation and advice as needed.
<b>National Fire Protection Association</b>	Agency provides 2 principal Members and 3 Alternate Members to various NFPA Technical Committees.
	Represented the Agency at a forum in Boston addressing national trends in State Fire Marshal issues.
<b>Office of State Planning Coordination</b>	Represent the Agency; attend and participate at the monthly PLUS meetings with developers and generate detailed reports.
<b>County Technical Advisory Committees</b>	Participates in the advisory process in New Castle, Kent, Sussex Counties, and several Cities and Towns.
<b>American Society of Certified Engineering Technicians</b>	Maintains a presence at the monthly meetings of the local chapter.
<b>Lower Delaware &amp; Maryland Building Code Officials Ass'n</b>	Represents the Agency; attends regularly scheduled meetings to discuss code enforcement issues in Kent County and Sussex County.
<b>Delaware Building Officials Association</b>	Represents the Agency; attends regularly scheduled meetings to discuss local code enforcement issues in New Castle County.
<b>Delaware Residential Fire Sprinkler Coalition</b>	Staff members attend and participate in scheduled meetings. Participated in a "live-burn" demonstration at the Coalition's Fire Safety Day.
<b>University of Delaware</b>	Aided in the fire safety training of the University's Resident Assistants.
<b>Department of Technology &amp; Information</b>	Assisted with the development and troubleshoot of the new FMIS (Fire Marshal Information System) database.
<b>Division of Communications</b>	Assisted in maintaining the operational status of the 800 MHz radio system.
<b>DelDOT</b>	Coordinate with several large projects during the preliminary design phase.
<b>National Association of State Fire Marshals</b>	Assist Maryland State Fire Marshal with annual conference in Annapolis.

## *Fiscal Year 2019 Major*

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## *Projects*

In FY-19 there were over 100 projects submitted for review with estimated construction costs that exceeded \$2,000,000. Below is a list of some of the more significant submitted projects.

### *New Castle County*

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Occupancy Classification</u>	<u>Description</u>
Storage Depot	Storage	Self-storage facility In Middletown
OneDelaware- Comcast	Business/Industrial	Renovations to existing building east of Newark
DuPont Country Club	Assembly/Business	Golf Training Facility off Rockland Road north of Wilmington
Goldey Beacom College	Dormitory/Business	5-story residence hall and major renovations and additions in Pike Creek
Concord Plaza	Mixed Use	Redevelopment of a former business campus into mixed use residential, mercantile, assembly, and business use in the Talleyville area
St. Francis Life	Daycare	Adult Daycare facility North of Glasgow
Delaware Innovation Space	Industrial	Major renovations in support of new research & development at DuPont Experimental Station outside of Wilmington
Appoquinimink Campus	Educational	Middle, High School, and Performing Arts outside of Odessa
J T. Vaughn Correctional	Detention/Correctional	Addition to Building 20 at corrections facility outside of Smyrna
DPS Consolidation	Business/Industrial	Renovations to support office and laboratory research & development at DuPont Experimental Station outside of Wilmington.
Our Lady of Grace Apartments	Residential	12 apartment buildings and community center outside of Newark
Avenue North Garage	Storage	7-Story parking garage in Fairfax
Solenis @ Avenue North	Business	Major renovations to an existing office building in Fairfax
St. Andrew's Addition	Residential	5-Story apartment building
Christiana Lifestyle Storage	Storage	Self-storage facility in Bear
Coldwater Self Storage	Storage	Self-storage facility near Minquadale

### *Kent County*

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Occupancy Classification</u>	<u>Description</u>
Delaware Veterans Home	Health Care	An addition to a Long Term Care facility in Milford.
Postlethwait	Education	Upgrade/Renovations in middle school in Camden.

### *Sussex County*

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Occupancy Classification</u>	<u>Description</u>
Holiday Inn Express	Residential	Hotel near Lewes
Beebe	Health Care	An Operating Room addition on existing hospital in Lewes
Baltimore Avenue Residences	Residential	Hotel in Rehoboth Beach
Residence @ Riverplace	Residential	Apartments buildings in Seaford
Sandpiper Plaza	Mixed Use	Building for retail areas and apartments in Rehoboth Beach
Oaks @ Georgetown	Residential	Six (6) Apartments buildings in Georgetown
Nemours South	Business	Medical offices at BayHealth Medical Campus in Milford
Beebe	Health Care	Cardiac Catheter Lab in Lewes
General Refrigeration	Business	Main and Engineering/design offices in Delmar for manufacture of large industrial refrigeration systems

DSP Troop 7 & Maintenance	Business/Storage	State Police facility in Lewes
Nassau Valley Vineyards	Mixed Use	Building for retail areas and apartments in Lewes

## *Preliminary Land Use Service*

The Office of the State Fire Marshal continues its support of the “PLUS” program administered through the Office of State Planning Coordination (OSPC).

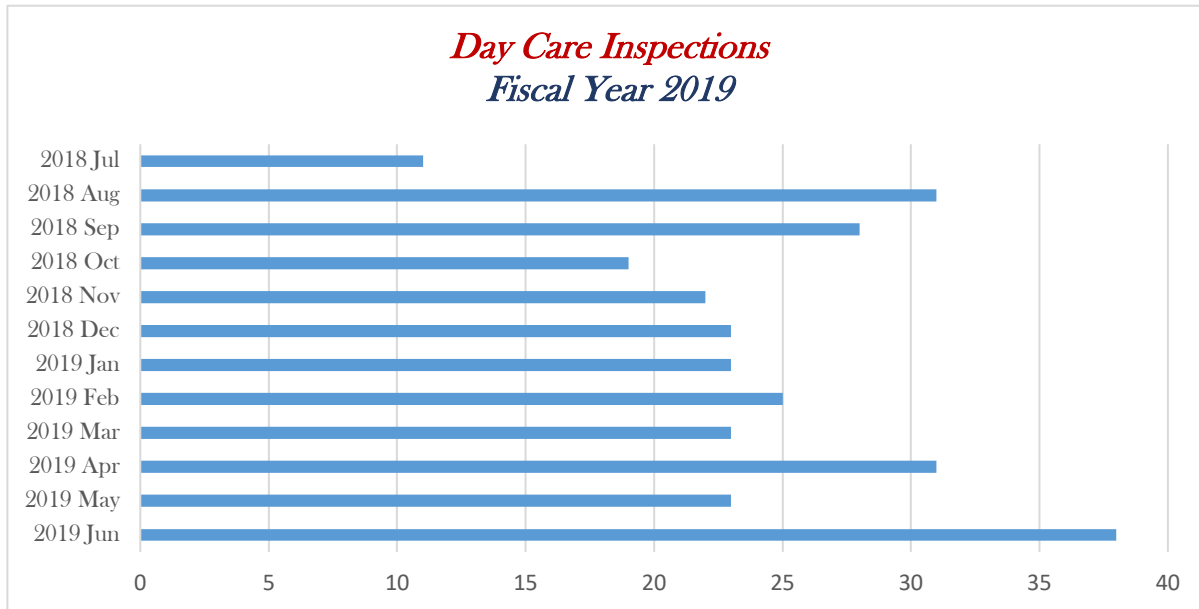
Throughout FY-19, representatives of the Office of the State Fire Marshal have attended and participated in the monthly meetings in Dover, along with developers of proposed projects and representatives of other State agencies. Proposed projects, 62 statewide, were reviewed preliminarily and written reports were generated and transmitted to OSPC for incorporation into their consolidated report back to the developers.

In addition to 34 residential developments, which comprised of a total of over 6,000 added apartment units, as well as, single and two family dwelling units, some of the more significant projects included:

- *Sussex Central High School:* a new high school in Georgetown
- *Tranquility at Breakwater:* 75,000 sq. ft. of commercial space in Sussex County
- *Avon Commons:* a mixed use development to include 331,050 square feet of commercial space in New Castle County
- *John G. Leach School:* 65,000 square foot school in New Castle County
- *Delmar Storage Facility:* 72,778 square feet of commercial storage in Delmar
- *Isaac’s Farm:* 196,780 square feet of commercial space in Georgetown
- *Chapell Farm:* residential units & 45,000 sq. ft. of commercial space in Sussex County
- *Laurel Plaza:* 89,640 square feet of commercial retail space in Laurel

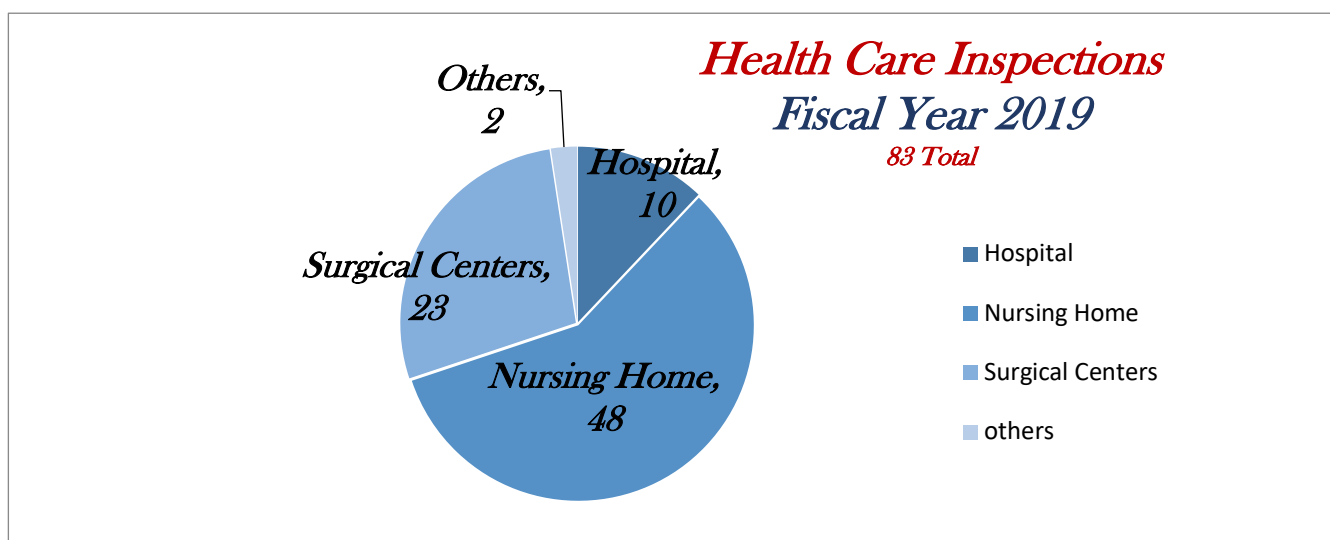
## Day Care Inspections

The Office of the State Fire Marshal conducts inspections of child care providers to verify compliance to the State Fire Prevention Regulations. After the inspection, reports are submitted to the Office of Child Care Licensing (DSCYF). In Fiscal Year 2019, the Office of the State Fire Marshal conducted **297** inspections in day care facilities throughout the State.



## Health Care Inspections

The Office of the State Fire Marshal enforces compliance with the State Fire Prevention Regulations of all Ambulatory Surgical Centers and Health Care occupancies by conducting annual inspections. Health Care occupancies include Hospitals, Long Term Care (nursing homes), Assisted Living facilities (limited care), and Ambulatory Surgical Centers. The Office of the State Fire Marshal completes other tasks in Health Care occupancies that include investigating fire incidents, evaluating life safety complaints, answering technical inquiries and responding to consultation requests.



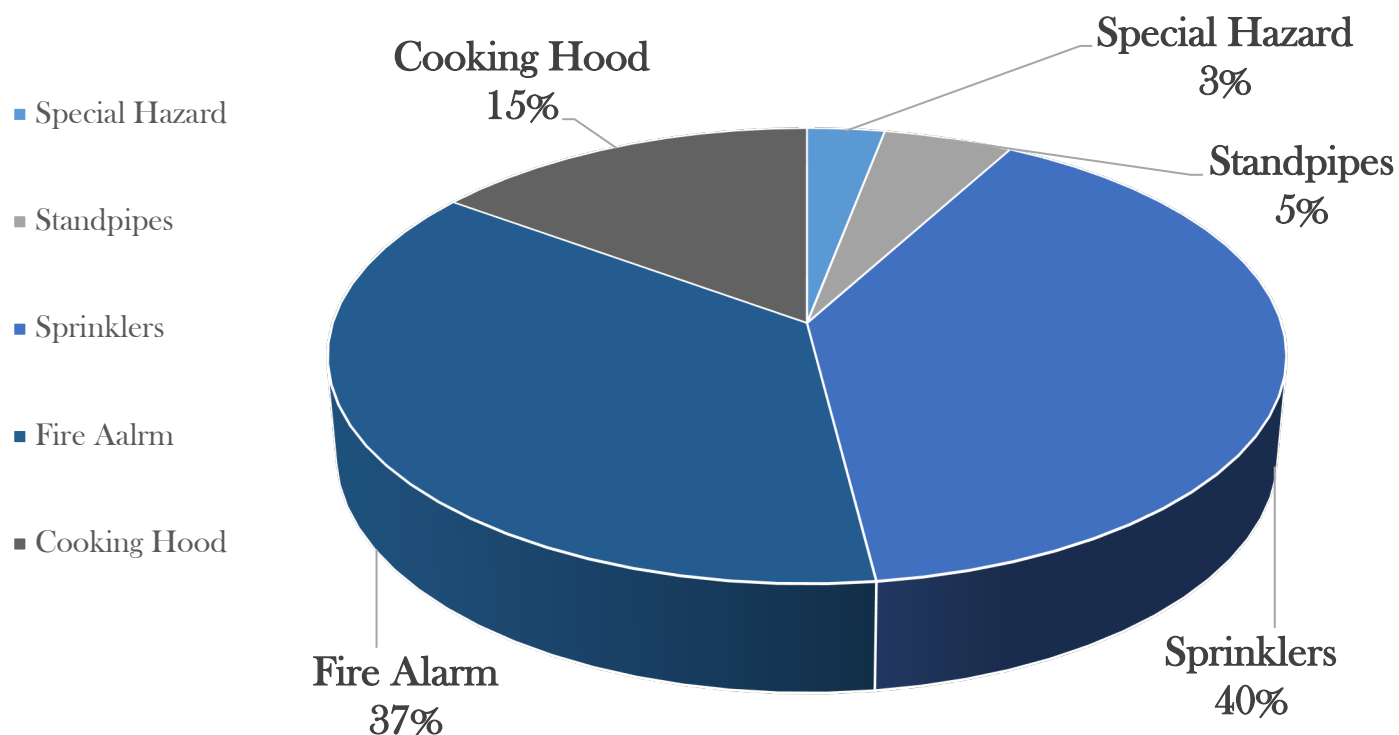


## *Technical Services*

### *Quality Assurance Program*

The Quality Assurance Program (QAP) provides a statewide program involving two distinct functions; Fire Protection System Certification and Fire Protection Contractor Licensing.

### *Types of Fire Protection Systems*





# *Fire Protection Company*

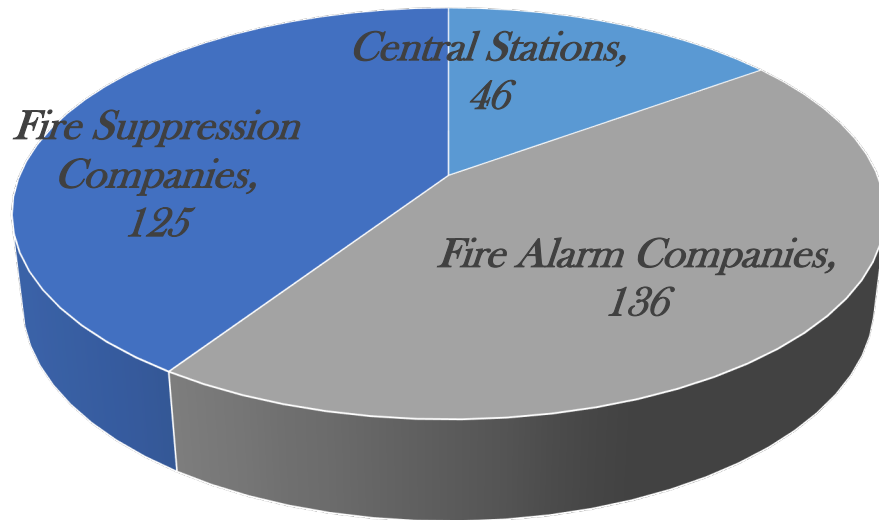
## *Licensing*

The State Fire Prevention Regulation requires that all companies that design, install and maintain fire protection systems be licensed annually by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

**Fiscal Year 2019 - 307 Total**

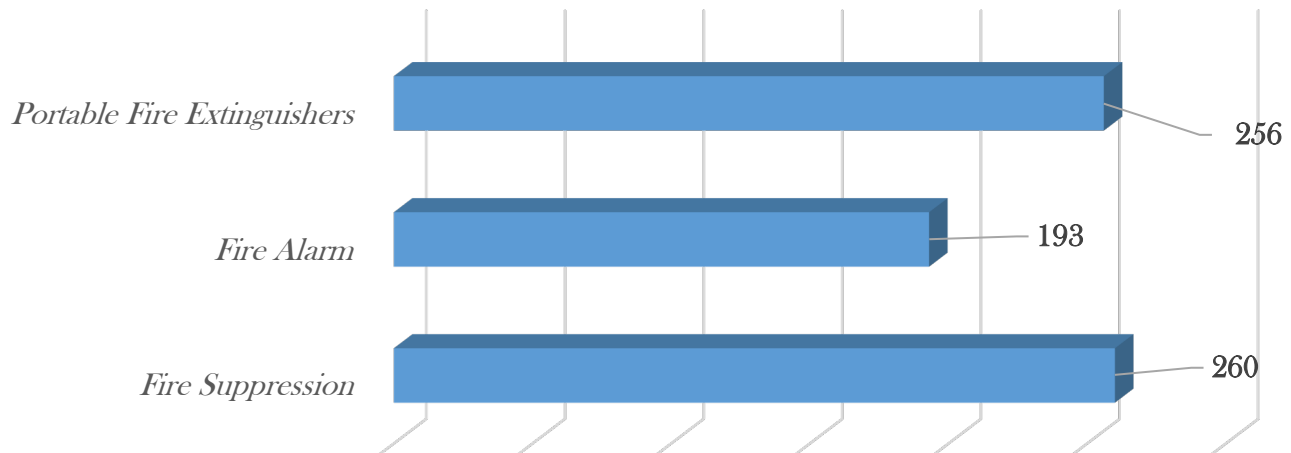
***Fire Protection Companies***

Licensed by the Office of the State Fire Marshal



**Fiscal Year 2019 - 709 Total**

***Fire Protection Certificate Holders***





# **Accelerant Detection Canine Unit**

***DFM III John  
Galaska & K9 Tanya***



The Office of the State Fire Marshal Accelerant Detection K9 Team has served the state since 1990. The K9 Unit examines fire scenes throughout the state for the presence of accelerants or ignitable liquids, such as gasoline or lighter fluid that may be used to start or spread a fire. In 1997 the agency received a grant from State Farm Insurance Company for an Accelerant Detection K9. This same grant was received and utilized for the current K9. The grant provides the K9 and initial training, lodging and expenses for certification.

The Accelerant Detection K9 Unit is staffed by K9 Tanya, a Black Labrador Retriever and handler Deputy Fire Marshal John M. Galaska. Deputy Galaska has been a Deputy Fire Marshal assigned to the Sussex Division / Investigations since 2003 and has been a handler in the K9 program since 2009. The Team of Tanya and handler Deputy Galaska are required to recertify each year. In July 2018 the team successfully recertified at a recertification held in Yarmouth, Maine. This past fiscal year marks Tanya's 5<sup>th</sup> year of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Delaware. This achievement for Tanya encompasses response to 353 fire scenes and operational service 175 times. Tanya stands at the ready to serve 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

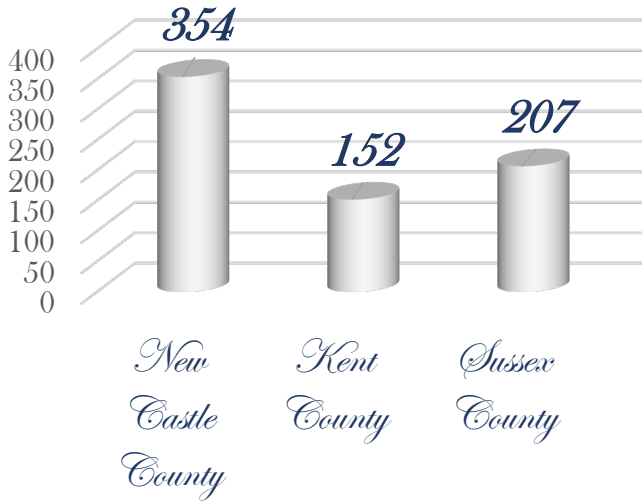
K9 Tanya is a food reward K9 which refers to the way she is trained. Tanya is required to make a positive alert coming to her final response on an accelerant to be rewarded with a handful of food. To keep up with food intake K9 Tanya and Deputy Galaska follow a very intensive daily training processes delivered at different times and for random durations involving actual fire scenes, training scenarios and training aids. This process is repeated until K9 Tanya receives her daily allotment of food which varies from day to day and is regulated by her handler Deputy Galaska. Tanya is a "companion dog" who lives and travels with Deputy Galaska. A strong team bond is formed between handler and K9 through the intensive training regimen, however, Tanya is a faithful friend and companion to all at the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

This past year K9 Tanya and Deputy Galaska trained 1018 separate times. This training represents thousands of trips for K9 Tanya to Deputy Galaska's hand for food after a positive final response alert. K9 Tanya responded to 70 fire scenes this fiscal year and was utilized in her operational capacity 32 times. These operational K9 examinations included major loss fire scenes, personal injury fire scenes as well as fatal fire scenes. Successful demonstrations were performed at North Dover Elementary School, Cesar Rodney High School, Delaware State Police Academy, New Castle County Police Academy, Delaware State Fire School, Sussex County Fire Chiefs meeting, Indian River Fire Company safety day and the Georgetown Police Department Junior Police Academy. K9 Tanya and Deputy Galaska can provide regional assistance to other agencies when needed and this fiscal year assistance was given to the Wilmington Fire Department and the New Castle County Police Department as well as on call standby for the Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office. K9 Tanya and handler Deputy Galaska were featured on a 2014 web series presented by celebrity K9 trainer Victoria Stilwell. This web series is available for viewing at [www.arsondog.org](http://www.arsondog.org)

# Investigations

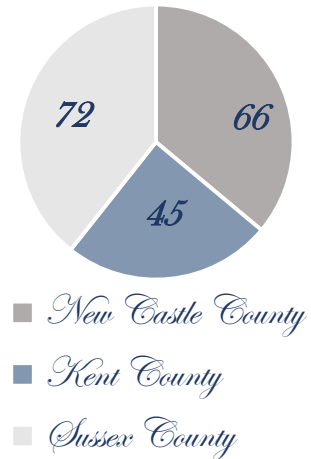
## Fire Investigations Statewide

713 Total

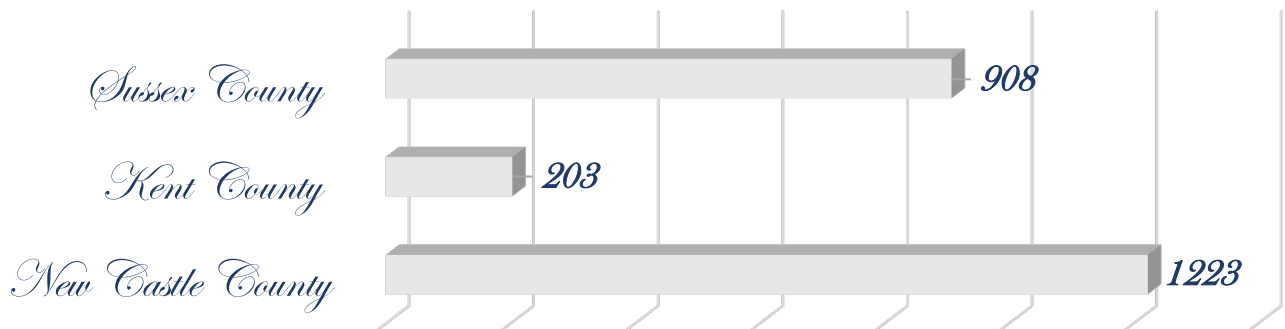


## Fire Code Complaints Statewide

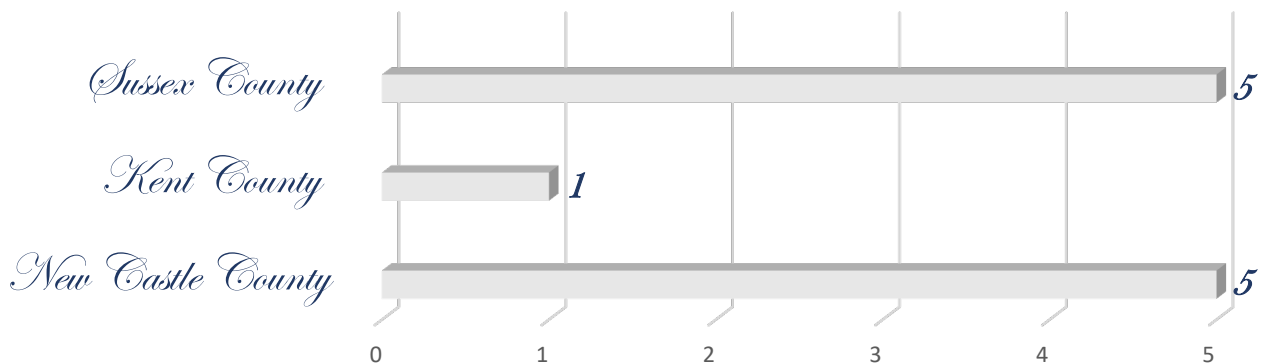
183 Total



## Inspections Statewide - 2334



## Deaths Statewide - 11



### *New Castle County - 5*

Date of Fire: Thursday, September 6, 2018  
Time of Alarm: 1406 hours  
Victim: B/M 80 years old  
Location: 901 Linfield Road- Newark  
Fire Department: Aetna Hose, Hook, & Ladder  
Type of Incident: House Fire  
Origin: Front Porch  
Cause: Smoking Materials  
Cause of Death: Smoke Inhalation  
Smoke Detectors: No

Date of Fire: Friday, December 7, 2018  
Time of Alarm: 0953 hours  
Victim: W/M 60 years old  
Location: 1808 Old Forge Road - New Castle  
Fire Department: Christiana Fire Company  
Type of Incident: House Fire  
Origin: Pending Determination  
Cause: Pending Determination  
Cause of Death: Thermal Burns & Smoke Inhalation  
Smoke Detectors: No

Date of Fire: Thursday, April 25, 2019  
Time of Alarm: 0135 hours  
Victim: W/F 63 years old  
Location: 5 West Summit Avenue - Wilmington  
Fire Department: Five Points Fire Company  
Type of Incident: House Fire  
Origin: Front Porch  
Cause: Incendiary - Open Flame  
Cause of Death: Thermal Burns  
Smoke Detectors: Yes

Date of Fire: Thursday May 19, 2019  
Time of Alarm: 1643 hours  
Victim: W/M 59 years old  
Location: 443 Walther Road - Newark  
Fire Department: Christiana Fire Company  
Type of Incident: Outside Fire  
Origin: Exterior Rear Yard  
Cause: Incendiary  
Cause of Death: Thermal Burns  
Smoke Detectors: No

Date of Fire: Monday, May 13, 2019  
Time of Alarm: 0429 hours  
Victim: W/M 63 years old  
Location: 2103 Capitol Trail - Newark  
Fire Department: Mill Creek Fire Company  
Type of Incident: Outside Fire  
Origin: Exterior Wooded Area  
Cause: Incendiary  
Cause of Death: Thermal Burns  
Smoke Detectors: No

### *Sussex County - 5*

Date of Fire: Tuesday, December 18, 2018  
Time of Alarm: 2144 hours  
Victim: W/F 90 years old  
Location: 14842 Sussex Highway - Bridgeville  
Fire Department: Bridgeville Fire Company  
Type of Incident: House Fire  
Origin: Pending Determination  
Cause: Pending Determination  
Cause of Death: Thermal Burns & Smoke Inhalation  
Smoke Detectors: No

Date of Fire: Saturday, January 13, 2019  
Time of Alarm: 1425 hours  
Victim: W/F 74 years old  
Location: 238 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street - Laurel  
Fire Department: Laurel Fire Company  
Type of Incident: House Fire  
Origin: 1<sup>st</sup> floor Living Room  
Cause: Accidental Ignition-Upholstered Chair  
Cause of Death: Thermal Burns & Smoke Inhalation  
Smoke Detectors: Yes

Date of Fire: Sunday, January 27, 2019  
Time of Alarm: 0941 hours  
Victim: W/M 70 years old  
Location: 26254 Prime Hook Road - Milford  
Fire Department: Milton Fire Company  
Type of Incident: House Fire  
Origin: 1<sup>st</sup> floor Utility Room  
Cause: Heater Malfunction  
Cause of Death: Thermal Burns & Smoke Inhalation  
Smoke Detectors: No

Date of Fire: Tuesday, January 29, 2019  
Time of Alarm: 0426 hours  
Victim: B/M 55 years old  
Location: 28693 Harmons Hill Road -Millsboro  
Fire Department: Millsboro Fire Company  
Type of Incident: House Trailer Fire  
Origin: Living Room  
Cause: Portable Heater Ignited Combustibles  
Cause of Death: Thermal Burns & Smoke Inhalation  
Smoke Detectors: No

Date of Fire: Wednesday, May 1, 2019  
Time of Alarm: 2000 hours  
Victim: B/M 25 years old  
Location: 413 N. Arch Street - Seaford  
Fire Department: Seaford Fire Company  
Type of Incident: House Fire  
Origin: Pending Determination  
Cause: Pending Determination  
Cause of Death: Smoke Inhalation  
Smoke Detectors: Yes

## *Kent County - 1*

Date of Fire: Monday, April 1, 2019  
Time of Alarm: 1638 Hours  
Victim: W/F 64 years old  
Location: 7 Kenton Circle - Clayton  
Fire Department: Clayton Fire Company  
Type of Incident: House Trailer Fire  
Origin: Bedroom  
Cause: Incendiary - Open Flame  
Cause of Death: Smoke Inhalation  
Smoke Detectors: No

## *Major Incident Response Team*

*July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019*

Total Fire Deaths: **11**

Total Fatalities **WITH** Working Smoke Detectors: **3**

Total Fatalities **WITHOUT** Smoke Detectors: **8**

## *Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Program*



*Rebekah L. Legar, MS*

Senior Juvenile Fire Setter  
Intervention Coordinator

The Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Program (JFIP) was initiated in 1981. In those **38** years, **6,111** juveniles have been interviewed and a **6% recidivism rate** has been consistently maintained. Those juveniles have been referred to the program through a variety of agencies including, Child Mental Health, Division of Family Services, Youth Rehabilitative Services, Schools, and Fire Departments. A majority of those referrals originated from either parents/guardians or through State or local Fire Marshal's Offices.

The JFIP represents the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) with public relations at community events. This year, the program participated in **27** events throughout the State of Delaware.

Clients	<b>45</b>
Total Mileage	<b>4,924</b>
Meetings	<b>23</b>

Juveniles between the ages of 3-17, may be referred to the JFIP by calling our toll free number at

**1-800-432-8500** or by utilizing the referral form which can be accessed on our website

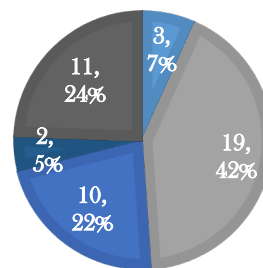
## *Educational Intervention*

- Consequences of Fire Play
- Hurting Themselves and Others
- A High Price to Pay (Legal/Financial)
- Media Influence
- Media Portrayal of Fire vs. Reality
- Good Choices vs. Bad Choices
- Peer Pressure Influence

## **JFIP CLIENT INTERVIEWS**

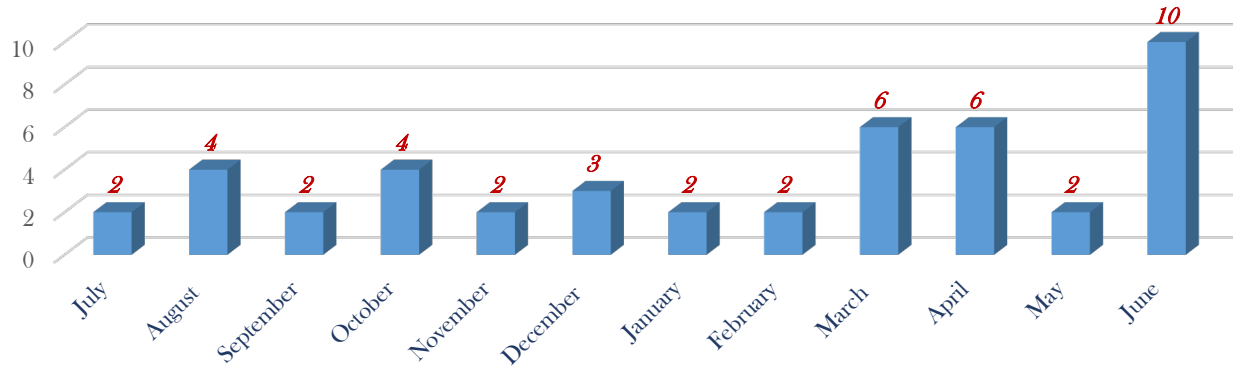
*JULY 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2019*

■ City of Wilmington ■ New Castle County  
■ Kent County ■ City of Dover  
■ Sussex County



## JFIP Client Interviews By Month

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019



## False Fire Alarms

20

Effective January 1, 2004, an amendment to 16 Del. C. §6637 introduced an initiative intended to reduce the frequency of false fire alarms in the State of Delaware. It is intended to deter excessive number of fire alarms that have been determined to be a result of poor detector maintenance or lack of required fire alarm servicing.

	<i>New Castle</i>	<i>Kent</i>	<i>Sussex</i>	<i>Statewide</i>
Total Alarm Activations (# of Warnings Issued)	123	24	34	181
Fines Issued:	6	1	0	7
Amount Collected	\$950	\$100	\$0	\$1050

In FY19 there were over **181 False Fire Alarms** recorded with 7 of them leading to penalties being issued. These fines resulted in \$1050 being collected. All monies derived from the civil penalties are placed in the Fire Detection Fund used for the purpose of sponsoring hard wired smoke detectors to needy Delaware residents.

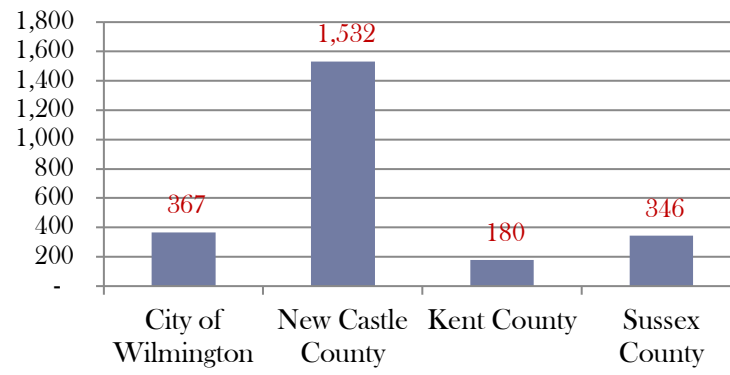
## Operation Safety- Hard Wired Smoke Detectors

The State Fire Marshal acknowledges that **Smoke Detectors Save Lives**.

The objective of Operation “Safety” is to ensure the installation of hard wired smoke detectors in every private residence in the State of Delaware by assisting citizens in homes where handicapped children, handicapped adults, infirm residents and residents 62 years of age and older reside.

In FY19, 9 homes were provided with **25** detector installations at a cost of **\$6,789**. To date, the program has been responsible for the installation of **2,425** detectors in **906** homes.

### *HWSD Program Totals to Date*





# Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System (DFIRS)

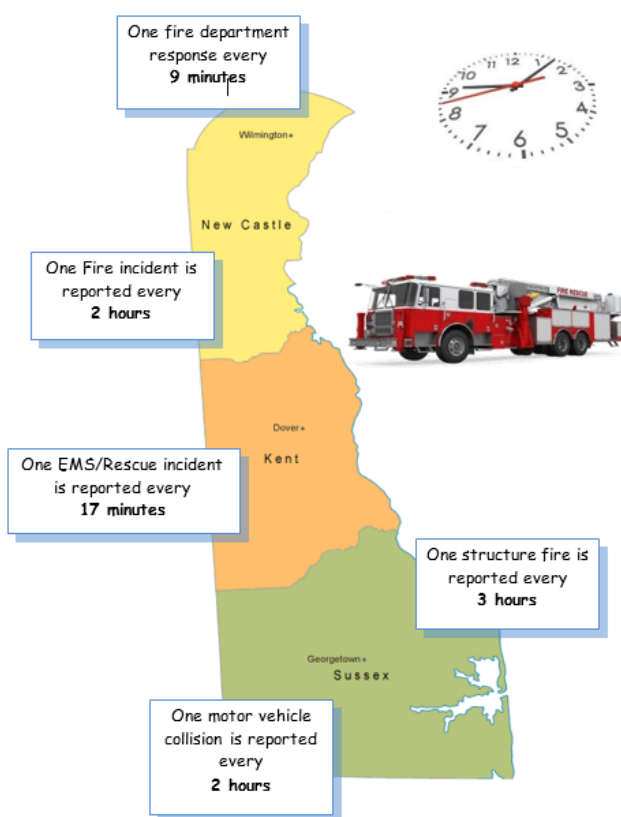
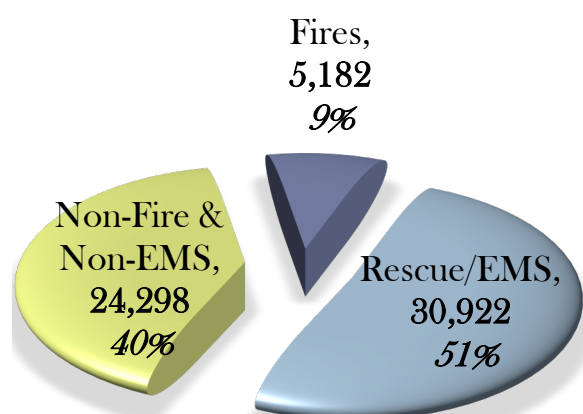
## *Keeping Delaware Safe - Fighting Fire with Facts*

DFIRS is Delaware's segment of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), a reporting system that captures the full range of incident activity. It constitutes the world's largest national collection of fire incident information. The Office of the State Fire Marshal oversees the consolidation and technical review of the collected data from all 61 Delaware fire departments.

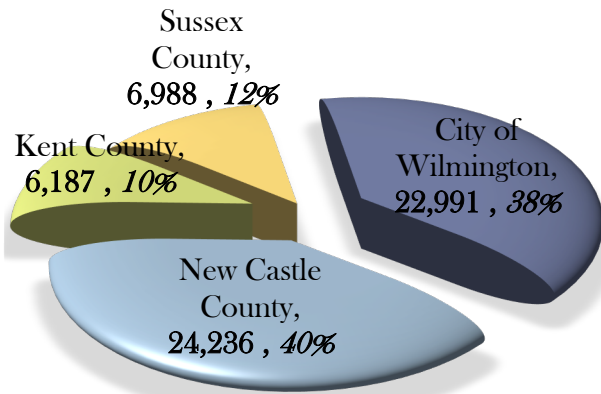
In 2018, **60,402** incidents were reported to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. There were **9,593** incidents in which a fire department provided assistance (mutual or automatic aid given) to another jurisdiction.

The makeup of the types of incidents that fire departments reported in 2018 showed an **increase by 5 percent** from the previous year. The following charts provide an overview of the current characteristics in Delaware:

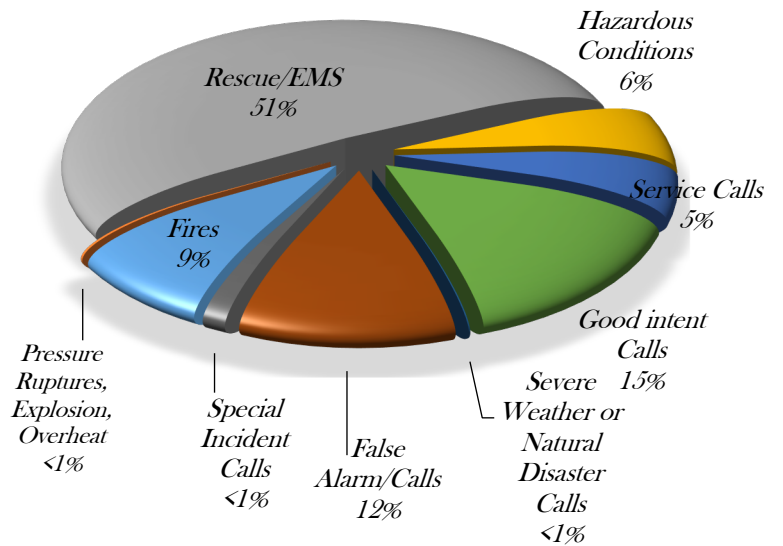
### *Total Incidents 2018*



## *Incidents by County and City of Wilmington 2018*

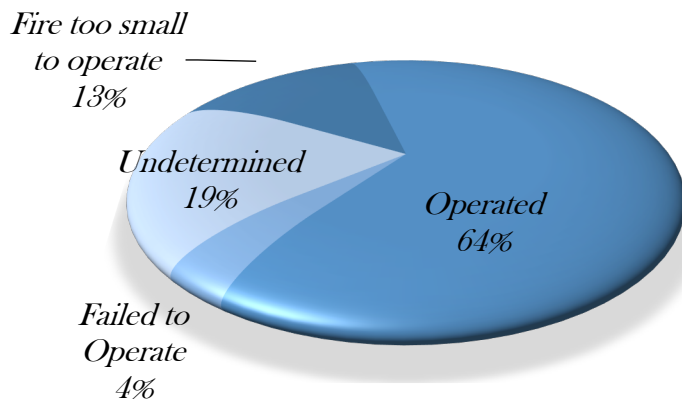


## *Incident Type Summary 2018*

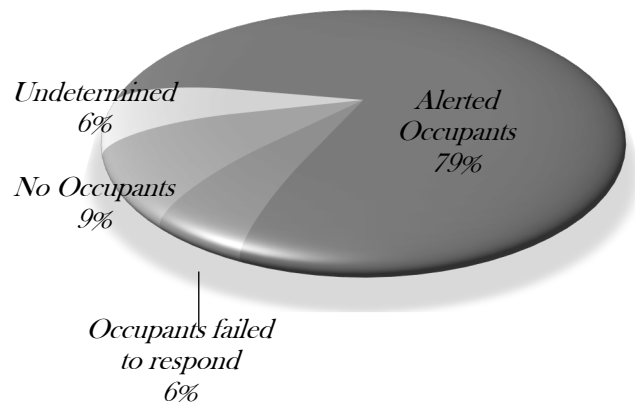


The data in these tables identify the operating principle of detectors present in the area of origin or in near proximity to the area of origin.

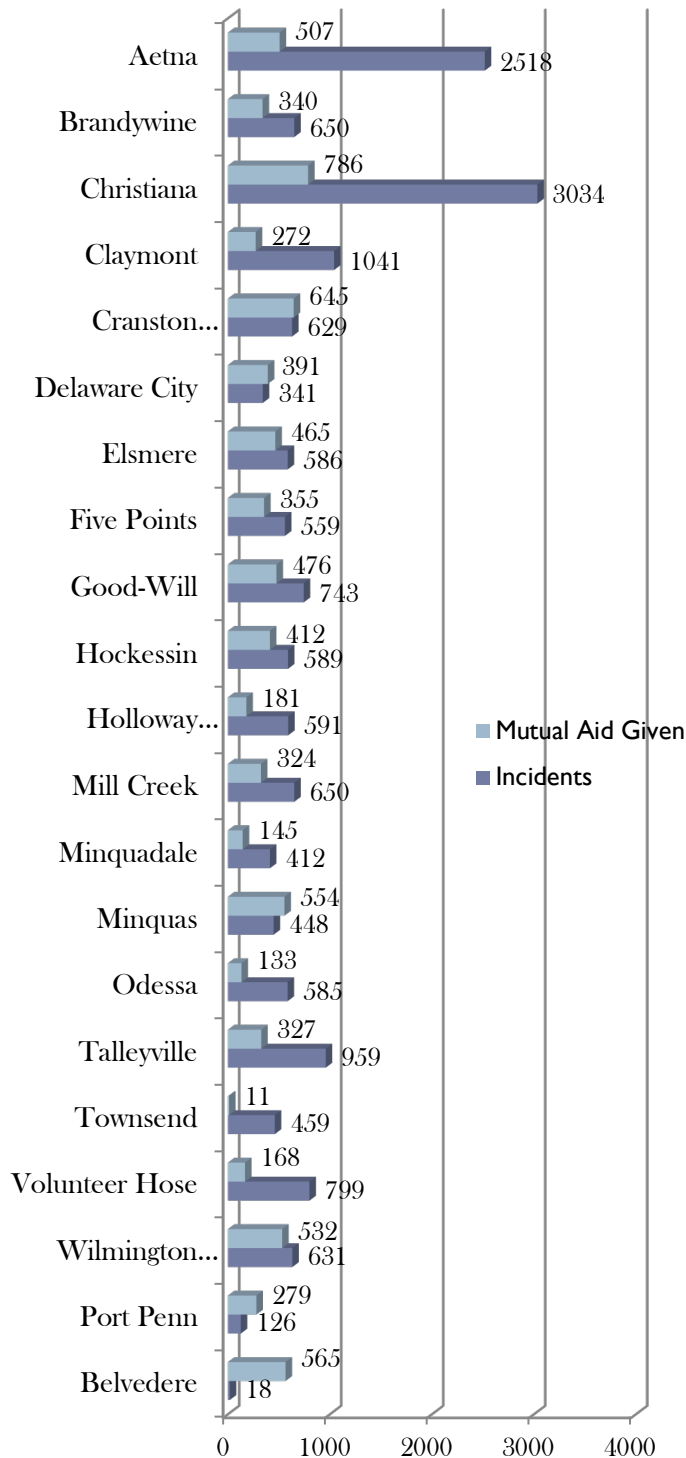
## *Detector Operation 2018*



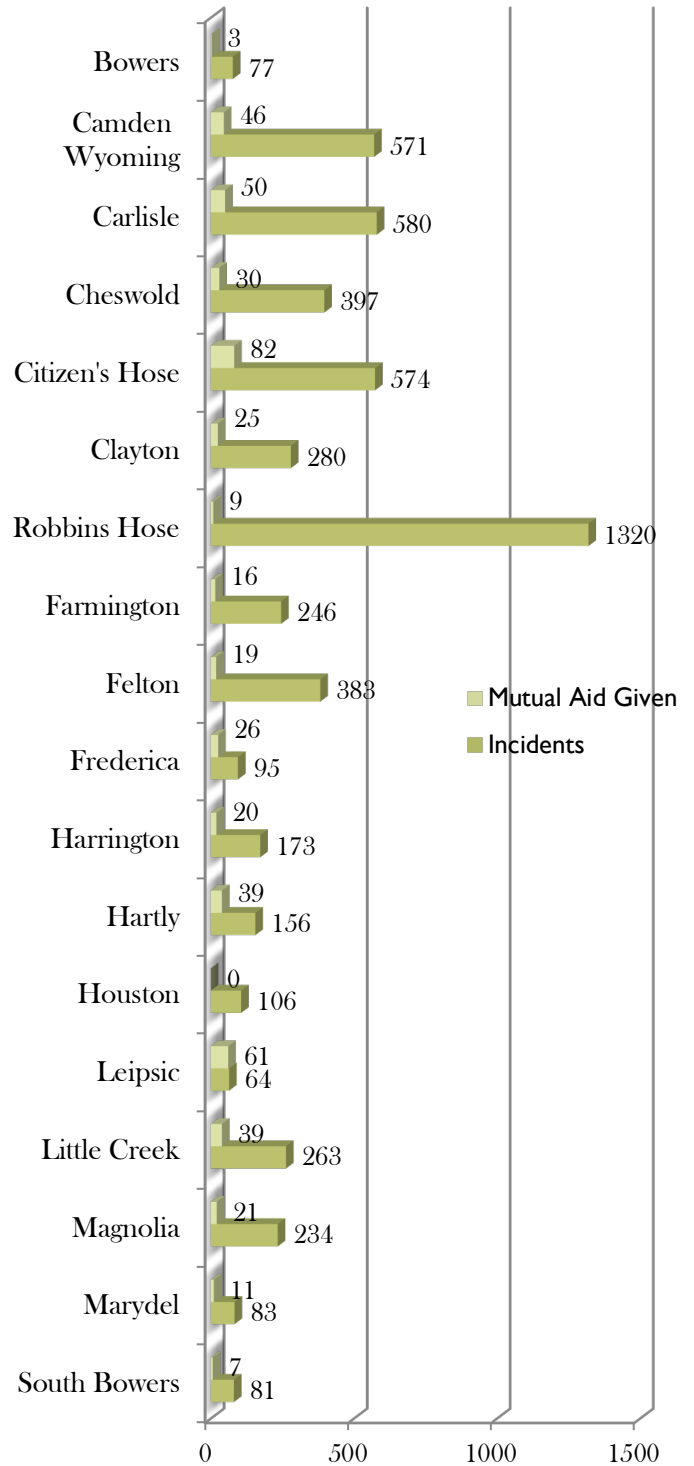
## *Detector Effectiveness 2018*



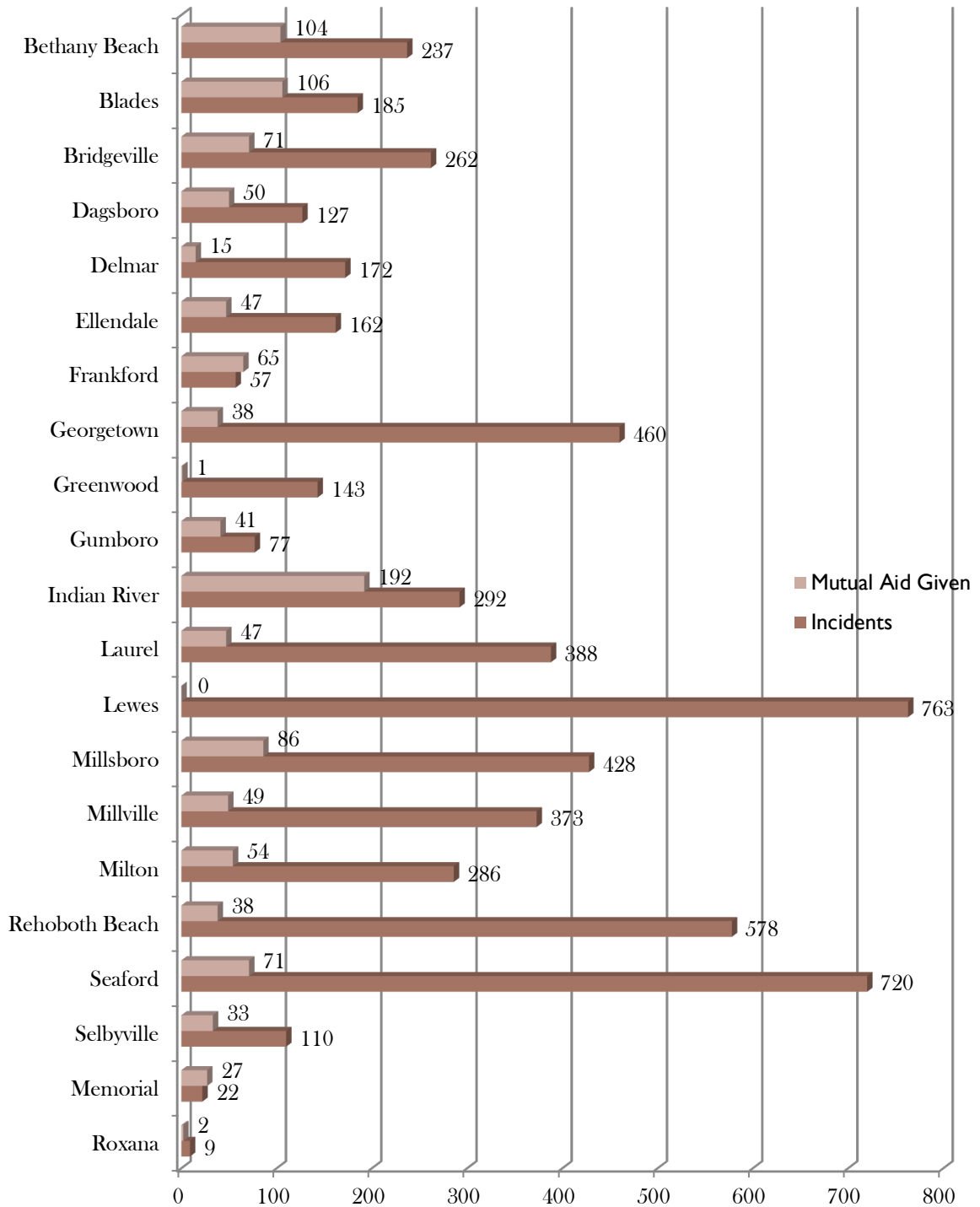
## *New Castle County Incidents 2018*



## *Kent County Incidents 2018*



## *Sussex County Incidents 2018*



# *Office of the Delaware State Fire Marshal*



## *Headquarters Division*

1537 Chestnut Grove Road

Dover, DE 19904

## *New Castle Division*

2307 MacArthur Road

New Castle, DE 19720



## *Sussex Division*

22705 Park Avenue

Georgetown, DE 19947

